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National Agricultural Statistics Service
Kentucky Field Office



News Release

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KENTUCKY WHEAT PRODUCERS HARVEST SMALLER CROP

Kentucky farmers harvested 16.5 million bushels of winter wheat in the summer of 2010 according to the Kentucky Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 26 percent from 2009. A wet fall caused planting problems. Farmers harvested 250,000 acres for grain. This was down 140,000 acres from 2009. Yield was estimated at 66 bushels per acre, up 9 bushels from the 2009 yield. Farmers seeded 390,000 acres in the fall of 2009, down 120,000 acres from the previous year. The 140,000 acres not harvested for grain were plowed down for a cover crop prior to setting tobacco, cut as grain hay, chopped as grain silage or abandoned.

Production of all wheat for the U.S. totaled 2.22 billion bushels in 2010, down 2 percent from the August forecast but up slightly from 2009. Grain area was 47.7 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. The yield was a record high 46.7 bushels per acre, 2.3 bushels higher than last year and 1.8 bushels higher than the previous record set in 2008.

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